



## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:  
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### **North Dakota Department of Health Reminds Parents of the Importance of Back-To-School Immunizations**

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Health today reminded parents of the importance of immunizing their children before school starts. Immunizations are safe and effective in preventing many serious diseases, including whooping cough (pertussis), measles and meningitis.

The following immunizations are required for children to attend school in North Dakota:

- Five doses of DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis)
- Four doses of IPV/OPV (polio)
- Two doses of MMR (measles, mumps and rubella)
- Three doses of HBV (hepatitis B)
- One dose of Varicella (chickenpox)

The following vaccines are recommended for adolescents but are not required:

- One dose of meningococcal vaccine
- One dose of Tdap (new tetanus, diphtheria and acellular pertussis vaccine for adolescents)
- Any other immunizations that weren't previously given before school entry

Parents should contact their child's health-care provider or local public health unit to determine which immunizations their child needs and to get a copy of their child's immunization record.

For more information about childhood vaccinations, contact Heather Weaver, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.2035.

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